

For Immediate Release
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Roessler/Owens Secure NR 115 Rules Hearing in Oshkosh

Oshkosh....On June 15, 2007 Senator Carol Roessler (R-Oshkosh) and Representative Carol Owens (R-Oshkosh) wrote a letter to the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources, Scott Hassett, asking that a hearing be held in the Oshkosh area regarding the NR 115 rules on shoreland zoning.

Senator Roessler stated, "Secretary Hassett called me back personally responding to our joint request for a hearing in the Oshkosh area and told me that DNR would hold a hearing in our area. This meeting is vital for constituents with concerns and questions about the NR 115 rule changes to able to participate in the process."

"I am trying to give the constituents of my district the opportunity to be informed and have input on how to keep the beauty of our lakes, rivers, and streams a primary reason to live in Wisconsin," Owens added.

Senator Roessler and Representative Owens have heard from numerous constituents in their district about the proposed changes NR 115, a forty year old DNR rule.

"Because of the large amount of water, it is a reasonable request to have a hearing in our area. It is a valuable resource and unique compared to other state waters," Owens commented.

Roessler confirmed, "Lake Winnebago is the largest inland lake in Wisconsin. Residents all around Lake Winnebago including Oshkosh, Fond du Lac, Chilton, and Menasha to name a few, certainly want to keep abreast of these rules and have an opportunity to state their views and ask questions. In addition, the Town of Oshkosh has asked us to advocate for a public hearing in the Oshkosh area and the Winnebago County Board has passed two resolutions in opposition to proposed amendments to NR 115."

The DNR has set several public hearing dates throughout the state, but the details on the time and location of the Oshkosh area hearing are yet to be determined.

Roessler and Owens concluded, "We are very appreciative that Secretary Hassett has agreed to hold a hearing in our area which will provide for an open discussion and an opportunity for a large constituency impacted by these rule to continue to be engaged."

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